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Fifty-ninth year

Identical letters dated 1 September 2004 from the Permanent Representative of the Syrian Arab Republic to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and to the President of the Security Council

Upon instructions from my Government, I would like to convey to you the following regarding the proposed draft resolution on Lebanon that is before the Security Council.

The Syrian Arab Republic rejects in principle any discussion of the proposed draft resolution for the following reasons:

1. Lebanon, the concerned country, rejects raising this issue as expressed in the letter of the Permanent Representative of Lebanon issued as document A/58/879-S/2004/699.
2. The discussion by the Security Council of this issue contradicts paragraph 7 of article 2 of the Charter, which stipulates: "Nothing contained in the present Charter shall authorize the United Nations to intervene in matters which are essentially within the domestic jurisdiction of any state or shall require the Members to submit such matters to settlement under the present Charter".
3. The issue raised is not linked to any dispute and does not constitute a threat to international peace and security; consequently, the overall question does not fall under the jurisdiction of the Security Council by any means.
4. Syrian-Lebanese relations are governed by the Treaty of Brotherhood, Cooperation and Coordination concluded between the two countries and deposited with the United Nations.
5. There has been no complaint sent to this effect from the Lebanese or Syrian authorities, either to the United Nations or to the Arab League, as a regional organization.



6. The Syrian Arab Republic considers any discussion of this issue in the Security Council as a dangerous precedent that deviates the Council from its main functions and makes it a tool for illegal interference in the internal affairs of the independent and sovereign States Members of the United Nations.

I would appreciate it if this letter were circulated as a document of the fifty-eighth session of the General Assembly, under agenda item 37, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Dr. Fayssal **Mekdad**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative